

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CANBER 02043 090757 Z

10

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 GAC-01 MBFR-03 AEC-11 ACDA-19 RSR-01 /128 W

----- 015096

R 090717 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 715

S E C R E T CANBERRA 2043

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, PINR, AS

SUBJECT: BULLETIN ARTICLE ON US BASES

REF: (A) STATE 064072;

1. SUBSTANCE REFTEL A INCORPORATED IN LETTER FROM DEM TO DFA FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLAKENEY WHICH AMBASSADOR DELIVERED TO LATTER APRIL 9. IN DOING SO AMBASSADOR SAID THAT WE HAD SHARED SHOCK OF GOA UPON READING SAMUEL ARTICLE. HE SAID IT APPEARED THAT SAMUEL HAD ARTFULLY PUT TOGETHER MANY SCRAPS OF FACT AND FICTION IN WAY WHICH MADE THEM SEEM ATTRIBUTABLE TO US OFFICIALS. HE SAID LETTER WOULD MAKE CLEAR WHAT WAS ACTUALLY SAID AND REPEATED THAT WE REGRETTED ANY EMBARRASSMENT CAUSED.

2. BLAKENEY READ LETTER, THANKED US FOR IT AND PARTICULARLY FOR FACT THAT AMBASSADOR HAD RECOGNIZED SERIOUSNESS OF SITUATION BY COMING TO DELIVER RESPONSE HIMSELF. THIS WOULD BE REPORTED TO HIS SUPERIORS. (BLAKENEY HAS MEWNWHILE AFFIRMED PRIVATELY THAT HIS REFERENCE TO SUPERIORS IN THIS MATTER MEANS PRIME MINISTER AND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, WHO WERE MUCH EXERCISED ABOUT MATTER.) BLAKENEY SAID THAT HE HAD SOUGHT TO ACHIEVE UNDERSTANDING THROUGHOUT  
USG OF DIFFICULT FIGHT ON US BASES WHICH PM IS CARRYING ON WITH DETERMINATION BUT AT CONSIDERABLE POLITICAL COST. HE HOPED DIRECTIVE MIGHT BE ISSUED OR OTHER APPROPRIATE STEPS TAKEN TO BAR ANY US PUBLIC COMMENT ON THIS ISSUE OR DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN US AND AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENTS ABOUT IT WHILE MATTER IS IN VERY DELICATE  
SECRET

SECRET

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STATE ( PRESUMABLY MEANING AT LEAST THROUGH ALP CONFERENCE IN JULY). HE COMMENTED THAT IN HINDSIGHT IT CERTAINLY WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER IF COMMENT TO SAMUEL ON THE ISSUE HAD BEEN REFUSED. WE ASSURED HIM THAT SENSITIVITY WAS UNDERSTOOD IN WASHINGTON AND THAT WE WOULD REPEAT GOA' S CONCERN ABOUT IT.  
RICE

SECRET

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* SECRET

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 APR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973CANBER02043  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** RR  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** CANBERRA  
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**Line Count:** 75  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 STATE 064072  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 OCT 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <22-Oct-2001 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <11-Dec-2001 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971212  
**Subject:** BULLETIN ARTICLE ON US BASES  
**TAGS:** MARR, PFOR, PINR, AS  
**To:** EA  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005